

REMARKS

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-30 are present for examination.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pannu (U.S. Patent Number 6,735,741).

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pannu.

With respect to claims 1-30, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites an electronic mail transfer device which receives an electronic mail sent from a sending terminal through a communication line and sends at least a portion of the received electronic mail to a receiving terminal through the communication line according to an address of a destination party attached to the electronic mail, comprising:

“**means for separating** the electronic mail into first data including text data and second data when the received electronic mail includes the second data;

means for inserting an identifier associated with the second data into the first data; and

means for sending only the first data with the identifier to the receiving terminal;

wherein the identifier permits retrieval of the second data by the receiving terminal.” (Emphasis Added).

An electronic mail transfer device including the above-quoted features has the advantage that a **means for separating** can separate an electronic mail into first data including text data and second data when the received electronic mail includes the second data. Also, a **means for inserting** allows for inserting an identifier associated with the second data into the first data, and a means for sending allows for sending only the first data with the

identifier to the receiving terminal. In addition, the inserted identifier permits retrieval of the second data by the receiving terminal.

It is important to understand that the electronic mail transfer device including the above-quoted features allows for separating an electronic mail into first data including text data and second data. For example, if an electronic mail is sent that includes both text data and graphic data, then the electronic mail can be separated into the text data and the graphic data. Then, an identifier associated with the graphic data can be inserted into the text data, and it is possible to send only the text data with the inserted identifier to the receiving terminal. The inserted identifier would allow for the receiving terminal to retrieve the graphic data if desired. (Specification; page 10, lines 14-20; page 11, lines 3-16; page 12, line 25 to page 13, line 10; page 16, line 23 to page 17, line 4; page 17, line 22 to page 18, line 1).

An example may be instructive in understanding the advantages of the electronic mail transfer device including the above-quoted features. Suppose that a user of a PC sends an e-mail containing both text and graphics to a recipient. Further suppose that the recipient is using a portable telephone to receive the e-mail. In the case of sending and receiving e-mail through a portable telephone, there are the following problems: (1) The data transfer speed between a portable telephone and a network is typically much lower than a general wired network and, thus, it takes longer to receive an e-mail with a portable telephone; (2) The portable telephone is only able to receive data when in a stable communication environment and, thus, it is important to receive e-mails in a short amount of time; and (3) The communication fee of a portable telephone is generally more expensive than that of a wired network and, thus, it is important to reduce receiving time of e-mails on a portable telephone.

The present electronic mail transfer device including the above-quoted features may address such problems by receiving the e-mail sent from the PC, separating the e-mail into the text data and the graphics data, inserting an identifier into the text data to permit retrieval of the graphics data, and then sending only the text data with the inserted identifier to the portable telephone. By separating the text data from the graphics data and sending only the text data with the inserted identifier, the e-mail without the graphics data can be received by the portable terminal in a shorter amount of time than if the graphics data were also

transmitted with the text data. Then, the user of the portable terminal can decide whether or not to retrieve the graphics data by using the identifier. (Specification; page 1, line 11 to page 3, line 10).

Pannu neither discloses nor suggests an electronic mail transfer device including the above-quoted features. The system of Pannu does not have a **means for separating** an electronic mail into first data including text data and second data when the received electronic mail includes the second data. Pannu discloses that a document 14, such as an e-mail message, may include an embedded link 16 that addresses a document 18. (Pannu; FIG. 1; column 4, lines 34-39). Also, the linked to document 18 may be a file, such as a text, image, sound file, or motion picture. (Pannu; column 4, lines 39-41). However, it is important to realize that in the system of Pannu, the data in document 18 was never part of document 14 and, thus, the data in document 18 never needs to be separated from the data in document 14.

Indeed, when document 14 is created in the system of Pannu, it is created with the link 16 that links to the data in document 18. (Pannu; column 5, lines 53-63). Thus, there is never any data to separate in the system of Pannu and, hence, Pannu does not disclose a **means for separating** an electronic mail into first data including text data and second data when the received electronic mail includes the second data. If the document 14 in the system of Pannu contained both first data including text data and second data, the system of Pannu would not be able to separate the first data from the second data in document 14.

Therefore, independent claim 1 is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited prior art and, hence, is believed to be allowable.

If the Examiner persists in his rejection, applicant requests that the Examiner specifically point out what he considers to be the **means for separating** in the system of Pannu.

Independent claim 8 recites an electronic mail transfer system with features similar to features of the electronic mail transfer device of independent claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 8 is believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 15 recites an electronic mail transfer method with features similar to features of the electronic mail transfer device of independent claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 15 is believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 23 recites an electronic mail transfer device with features similar to features of the electronic mail transfer device of independent claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 23 is believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 29 recites an electronic mail transfer device with features similar to features of the electronic mail transfer device of independent claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 29 is believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 30 recites an electronic mail transfer method with features similar to features of the electronic mail transfer device of independent claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 30 is believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

The dependent claims are deemed allowable for at least the same reasons indicated above with regard to the independent claims from which they depend.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a

check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By Justin M. Sobaje

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (310) 975-7965
Facsimile: (310) 557-8475

Justin M. Sobaje
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 56,252